

the technical community colleges the 1.25 percent increase in their state aid budget for the fiscal year '85-86. The present budget for the university is 1.6 percent, state colleges, 2.48 percent, and my purpose in rising is to show the inequity with which the community technical colleges were treated in this situation. The increase in the enrollment, of course, was by a greater percentage than any other schools across the state but per capita funding by this Legislature was less so I only wished to bring this to the attention of the body even though I do not intend to force this amendment, and while it has been put there, I wish to withdraw it. Last year state aid to community technical colleges was 23,088,850. In addition the technical community colleges received 687,000, almost 688,000 in vocational educational funds which were used for salaries to vocational education instructors. These funds have been lost for the fiscal year 1985 and '86 and state aid increases was originally 524,000 plus, still approximately 163,000 less than what the community technical colleges lost in vocational educational funds and my amendment would have proposed an additional 236,000 plus cut. If this cut stands, several of the areas will have no choice but to significantly cut vocational programs and instructors. I wish to bring this to your attention so that it doesn't happen again next year, we hope. Thank you.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Thank you, Senator Nichol. The next person to be recognized is Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I would like to support the Warner amendment and encourage you to treat the technical community colleges the same as we are treating everyone else. Senator Nichol has indicated to you the basic fact that overall their percentage increase apparently will be around 1.5...excuse me, I didn't hear you. Senator Johnson, is it my understanding that the amendment has been withdrawn? I didn't hear that or understand it I guess.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Let me just quickly explain the dynamic. It works like this. The Appropriations Committee prepared an amendment that would reduce LB 722 by several millions of dollars. Senator Warner specifically asked individual members if there were any portion of the Appropriations Committee amendment that they wanted considered individually. There have been four individual